

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A modular cornice system, comprising:
 - at least one substantially rigid face section having a front side and a back side and a top edge and a bottom edge;
 - at least one substantially rigid return section having a connector configured to couple the return section and the face section;
 - ~~at least one integrally formed retainer on the face section configured to engage a bracket for attaching the cornice system to a mounting surface; and~~
 - at least one ~~integrally formed~~ slot extending at least partially along the front side, the slot providing access to an ~~integrally formed~~ elongated recess configured to receive and retain a cover material applied over at least a portion of the face section; and
 - at least one accessory panel connectable to at least one of the top edge and the bottom edge and extending co-planar with the face section, so that a user may customize the appearance of the cornice system.
2. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 1 wherein the front side comprises a contoured surface.
3. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 1 wherein the return section is arranged to snap-fit onto an end of the face section in a 90 degree mitered joint relationship.
4. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 1 further comprising at least one slot extending at least partially along the back side, the slot providing access to an elongated substantially circular recess configured to retain the cover material.
5. (Original) The system of Claim 3 wherein the cover material comprises one or more fabric or textile materials.

6. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 1 ~~further comprising wherein the~~ at least one accessory panel comprises a plurality of accessory panels that are selectively connectable along at least one of the top edge and the bottom edge ~~configured to connect with at least one of the face section and the return section.~~

7. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 6 wherein the accessory panels are provided in a plurality of shapes for customizing a decorative appearance of the cornice system ~~is a plurality of accessory panel segments.~~

8. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 6 wherein the accessory ~~panel~~ panels ~~further comprises~~ comprise a projection configured to engage an opening on a the top edge or a the bottom edge of ~~at least one of the face section and return section.~~

9. (Original) The system of Claim 1 wherein the return section further comprises separate interconnectable pieces.

10. (Original) The system of Claim 1 wherein the at least one substantially rigid face section is two or more interconnectable face sections.

11. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 10 further comprising at least one connector configured to interconnect the two or more face sections in an abutting end-to-end relationship.

12. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 1 ~~wherein the~~ further comprising a retainer ~~further comprises~~ having a projection arranged substantially parallel to a back surface of the face panel and extending along the back surface of the face panel to slidably engage ~~the~~ a bracket.

13. (Currently Amended) A modular decorating system for use with at least one cover material, comprising:

at least a first elongated member and a second elongated member, each having a front side with a contoured surface and a back side and a top edge and a bottom edge;

the first and the second elongated members having connecting structure configured to connect the first and second elongated members in an end-to-end relationship to form an extended face section of a desired length;

return members having at least one connector configured to couple with opposite ends of the extended face section in a substantially U shaped configuration;

at least one substantially nondeformable opening on at least one of the front side and the back side configured to receive a portion of the cover material; and

a plurality of accessory panels connectable in a plurality of arrangements along at least one of the top edge and the bottom edge of the first and second elongated members

~~so that the cover material may be applied over at least a portion of the extended face section to conform to the contoured surface.~~

14. (Original) The system of Claim 13 wherein the cover material is selected from the group consisting of a coating, a paint, a stain, a wallpaper, a fabric, a textile material, and an appliqué.

15. (Original) The system of Claim 14 wherein the cover material is a fabric configured to be at least partially tucked into the opening.

16. (Original) The system of Claim 13 wherein the contoured surface further comprises at least one arched section.

17. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 16 wherein the opening comprises a slot adjacent the arched section.

18. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 17 wherein the opening further comprises a pair of slots on the back side.

19. (Original) The system of Claim 13 further comprising an insert member configured to engage the opening.

20. (Original) The system of Claim 19 wherein the insert member is formed substantially in a T shape and configured to tuck the cover material into the opening.

21. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 13 ~~further comprising at least one wherein the accessory panels~~ panel having comprise a decorative profile to permit a user to customize an appearance of the elongated members by selectively arranging and connecting the accessory panels to the top and bottom edges of the elongated members and coupled to at least one of the elongated member and the return member.

22. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 21 wherein the at least one accessory panel comprises multiple segments.

23. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 13 wherein at least one of the elongated members and the return member further comprise a textured surface.

24. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 13 further comprising at least one elongated flap extending parallel to the back side and configured to slidably engage a bracket for movably mounting the extended face section to a mounting surface.

25. (Original) The system of Claim 13 wherein the return members further comprise tabs configured to support the contoured surface when the return members are coupled to the elongated members.

26. (Currently Amended) A commercial product in the form of a kit for a modular cornice system, comprising:

at least one substantially rigid face panel having a front side with at least one opening, and a back side with at least one opening, and a top edge and a bottom edge each having a first connector portion, and first and second ends;

side panels having a top and a bottom and an integrally formed connector configured to interconnect with the first and second ends of the face panel; and

at least one accessory panel having a second connector portion configured to interconnect with the first connector portion on at least one of the top edge and the bottom edge of the face panel, so that the accessory panel extends in a co-planar relationship along at least a portion of the face panel.

27. (Original) The commercial product of Claim 26 further comprising instructions.

28. (Previously Presented) The commercial product of Claim 26 wherein the at least one opening on the front side and the back side comprises a slot and a cavity.

29. (Original) The commercial product of Claim 28 wherein the cavity comprises a generally cylindrical shape configured to receive at least one cover material tucked through the slot.

30. (Original) The commercial product of Claim 26 wherein the at least one substantially rigid face panel is two or more face panels that are configured to interconnect.

31. (Original) The commercial product of Claim 30 further comprising a connector configured to join the face panels.

32. (Original) The commercial product of Claim 31 wherein the connector is a substantially cylindrical member configured to engage corresponding structure on the face panels.

33. (Original) The commercial product of Claim 26 wherein the face panel is configured to be cut to a desired length by a user.

34. (Previously Presented) The commercial product of Claim 26 wherein the first and second ends of the face panel are configured to couple with the side panels in a mitered snap-fit connection.

35. (Original) The commercial product of Claim 26 further comprising at least one clip for securing a cover material to the side panel.

36. (Original) The commercial product of Claim 26 wherein the side panel comprises separate pieces that may be coupled by connectors so that a gap exists between the separate pieces.

37. (Original) The commercial product of Claim 36 wherein the separate pieces have a contour configured to form a contoured surface that generally corresponds to the contoured surface of the face panel when the pieces are coupled by the connectors.

38. (Currently Amended) A cornice system, comprising:
at least one first face panel having a top edge and a bottom edge, a contoured surface and at least one slot between the top edge and the bottom edge; and
at least two second side panels having a first end with at least one connector for coupling the second panels to opposite ends of the first panel; and
at least one accessory panel attachable along at least a portion of a length of the first panel and extending from at least one of the top edge and the bottom edge co-planar with the first panel
~~an elongated retainer flap on the first panel configured to movably mount the first panel and the second panels to a mounting surface.~~

39. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 38 further comprising a cover material applied at least partially over at least one of the first face panel and the second side panels.

40. (Original) The system of Claim 39 wherein the cover material is selected from the group consisting of a coating, a paint, a stain, a wallpaper, a fabric, a textile material, and an appliqué.

41. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 40 wherein the slot communicates with a circular cavity configured to receive and retain the cover material.

42. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 41 further comprising an insert member configured to insert the cover material through the slot and into the circular cavity.

43. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 42 wherein the insert member is a substantially T shaped member configured to remain within the slot.

44. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 38 ~~further comprising~~ wherein the at least one accessory panel comprises a plurality of accessory panels having a decorative shape, for selectively customizing an appearance of the first panel configured to connect to at least one of a top or a bottom of the first panel.

45. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim ~~[[44]]~~ 38 wherein the accessory panel comprises a gap configured to retain a portion of a cover material.

46. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 44 wherein the accessory ~~panel~~ panels further comprise ~~comprises~~ a side panel connectible to the second panel.

47. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 38 wherein the at least one substantially inflexible slot comprises at least two openings on a front side of the first panel so that a cover material tucked within the openings may be conformed to the contoured surface.

48. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 47 wherein the at least one ~~substantially inflexible~~ slot comprises at least two openings on a back side of the first panel so that a cover material tucked within the openings may be conformed around a at least one of the top edge and a the bottom edge of the first panel.

49. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 38 wherein the first panel, the slot and the retainer are integrally formed as a single extruded member.

50. (Original) The system of Claim 38 wherein at least one of the first panel and the second panel are formed from a plastic material.